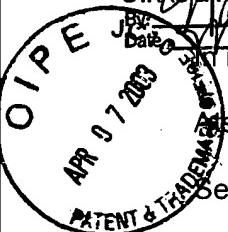


CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

on March 31, 2003, 2003
in the United States Patent and Trademark Office
at STAAS & HALSEY, INC., 1100 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 1000, Washington, D.C. 20036.



Attn: Masushi Watanabe, et al.

Serial No. 09/546,213

Group Art Unit: 2623

Confirmation No. 3616

Filed: April 10, 2000

Examiner: Hesseltine, Ryan J.

For: TEACHING MODEL GENERATING DEVICE

RECEIVED

AMENDMENT

APR 11 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed December 30, 2002, and having a period for response set to expire on Sunday, March 30, 2003.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please REPLACE the paragraph that begins at page 8, line 2 with the following:

An image produced by the image pickup device 20 is stored in the image memory 26.

The image processor 33 conducts processing of the image stored in the image memory according to a command from the processor 31 to recognize the object. The image processing device 30 is similar in configuration and function to an image processing device in the prior art. However, according to the present invention, the image processing device 30 is characterized in that teaching models (described later) are stored in the non-volatile memory 37, and pattern matching is carried out by using the stored teaching models, for the image data of the pile of workpieces photographed by the image pickup device 20 to obtain three-dimensional position and posture of the workpiece.